

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY - SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

Shelby Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

LIBERTY CHURCH,

SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA,

September 14th and 16th, 1878.

OFFICERS

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|------------|
| ELD. T. P. HOLCOMB, | : | : | : | : | MODERATOR. |
| ELD. C. W. O'HARA, | : | : | : | : | SECRETARY. |

WARE & WILLIAMS, PRINTERS—TALLADEGA.



M I N U T E S
OF THE
Shelby Missionary Baptist Association.

THE Twenty-Seventh Anniversary of the Shelby Missionary Baptist Association convened with Liberty Church, on Saturday, the 14th day of September, 1878.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. E. B. Teague, from the xix & xx vers. of the 28th C. of St. Mathew: "Go ye, therefore, teach all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you all way, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

On motion of Eld. E. B. Teague, Eld. T. P. Holcomb was appointed Moderator, pro tem., owing to the absence of the former Moderator.

Prayer was offered by Eld. J. H. R. Carden.

Brethren H. W. Bowers and W. M. Kidd were appointed to read.

Letters from the churches were called for, received, read and the names of the delegates enrolled. (See table of statistics.)

A door was opened for the reception of churches.

On motion, Brethren H. W. Bowers and W. M. Kidd were appointed tellers, who after receiving the votes, reported Eld. T. P. Holcomb elected Moderator and C. W. O'Hara, Clerk.

On motion, the order of business of our last session was adopted for this session.

Appointed the Deacons of Liberty Church, and Bro. William Acker from the first district and Bro. Nathaniel Thomas from the second district, as a committee on Devotion.

On motion, ordered that a collection be taken up on Sunday, after the 11 o'clock sermon, for Missions; to be applied to whatever Mission the Association may direct, except where the donors may designate the object.

APPOINTED COMMITTEES:

On Documents.—E. B. Teague, H. W. Bowers and J. W. Dodson.

On Finance—H. W. Bowers and Nathaniel Thomas.

On Sabbath Schools.—J. H. R. Carden, C. W. O'Hara and J. W. Dodson.

On Missions.—E. B. Teague, J. H. R. Carden and C. W. O'Hara.

On motion, Eld. J. W. Wood was seated in this body as a delegate from an arm of Liberty Church.

Appointed the next session of this body to be held with New Antioch Church, commencing on Saturday before the second Sabbath in September, 1879.

CALLED FOR CORRESPONDENCE.

Eld. I. L. Brasher and brethren Samuel Howard and H. M. Duke, from the Cahaba Valley Association, were present; not as appointed messengers from that body; but, on motion, were recognized as such by this body. Also, brethren C. F. Elliott and S. J. Thompson, from the Coosa River Association, were recognized as messengers from that body. All of whom were welcomed among us—the Moderator extending to them the right hand of fellowship.

On motion, ordered that the order of business be suspended, and that the Constitution, Abstract of Principles and Rules of Decorum be read; which was done.

On motion adjourned until Monday morning, 9 o'clock.

Prayer was offered by Bro. C. W. O'Hara,

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH.

On Sabbath the Missionary Sermon was preached by Eld. E. B. Teague, from the latter part of the 41st verse of the 24th chapter of St. Luke; "Beginning at Jerusalem," to a large and attentive congregation, after which a collection was taken up for missions—the amount of which may be found in the report of the committee on Finance.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH.

Association met. Prayer by Eld. E. B. Teague. Called the roll and marked absentees.

Called for the report on Missions, which was read and adopted and the committee discharged. (See Appendix A.)

Called for the report on Sabbath Schools, which was read and adopted and the committee discharged. (See Appendix B.)

Called for the report on Documents, which was read and adopted and the committee discharged. (See Appendix C.)

RETURNED CORRESPONDENCE:

To the Cahaba Valley Association—J. W. Dodson, W. C. Wilder and Eld. T. P. Holcomb.

On motion, the writing of corresponding letters was dispensed with, and messengers requested to make a verbal report.

On motion, the Moderator was authorized to appoint corresponding messengers when there is no volunteers.

To the Mulberry Association—Eld. T. B. Dison and James Booth.

To the Mud Creek—Eld. Thos. Mills and Henry Turner.

To the Canaan—Elds. Geo. T. Lee, J. H. R. Carden and James Martin.

Messengers to the State Convention—Elds. E. B. Teague, Geo. T. Lee, C. W. O'Hara, J. H. R. Carden, J. W. Wood, T. P. Holcomb and brethren James Parker, H. W. Bowers, James Martin, H. C. Reynolds and W. M. Kidd.

On motion, Eld. T. B. Dison was appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon at our next session, C. W. O'Hara, alternate.

On motion, Eld. Geo. T. Lee was appointed to preach the Missionary Sermon at our next session, J. H. R. Carden, alt.

On motion, ordered that the price of the *Alabama Baptist* and *Kind Words* be given in our minutes, which are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Alabama Baptist, single copy, | \$ 2 50. |
| “ “ clubs of five, | 2 25. |
| “ “ clubs of ten, | 2 00. |
| “ “ Ministers, | 2 00. |
| Kind Words, weekly, clubs of ten, | 60. |
| “ “ semi-mo. “ “ “ | 30. |

The Weekly and Semi-Monthly both contain the International Lessons.

The District Meeting for the First District will be held with Union, (Shelby,) Church, on Saturday before the first Sabbath in July, 1879. Subjects for discussion not given.

The District meeting for the Second District will be held with Liberty Church, on Saturday before the Fifth Sabbath in May, 1879.

SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION :

1st. What is the true design of the ordinances of the Church? Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Eld. E. B. Teague to open the discussion.

2nd. Who is represented by the Prodigal Son? Eld. C. W. O'Hara to open the discussion.

3rd. A sermon to be preached on Sunday by Eld. Geo. T. Lee. The theme to be : The duty of the Pastor to the Church and the Church to the Pastor.

On motion, ordered that the Clerk pay over the amount sent up for Missions by the churches, and the amount collected on Sabbath to the State Board; which was done.

The report of the committee on Finance was read and adopted, and the committee discharged. (See Appendix D.)

Directed that the Clerk superintend the printing of 300 copies of these minutes, reserve 30 copies for correspondence, transcribe the present minutes in the Association Book and that he receive \$7 50 for his services.

Resolved, That the Association tender thanks to the brethren and sisters of Liberty Church, and the community, for the hospitality shown us during our stay.

After prayer by Eld. E. B. Teague and the singing of a parting hymn, while the delegates extended to each other the parting hand, the Association adjourned *sine die*.

T. P. HOLCOMB, Moderator.

C. W. O'HARA, Clerk.

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APPENDIX :

(Appendix A.) *Report of Committee on Missions.*

That the command to carry the gospel, as far as our means can be found, to every nation and people, remains in full force, no one can deny. That so far as this command has been obeyed, it has required men and means, is equally indispensable. The living Minister has preached the word at somebody's expense. Paul and Barnabus, Paul and Silas could not travel and preach without expense. Paul, more than once, called on the churches, that he might be enlarged by them to preach the gospel in regions beyond. Who were placed in charge of this work may be learned from the 28th chapter of Mathew.

But Gods accepts willing offerings alone. He does not need anything. He requires gifts and offerings as the means of developing the graces of his people and blessing them. A more successful method of appeal has been found to be, a call for willing offerings only. The Churches ought to have some system of gathering up the offerings of the people. It might be

well for the Deacons, once a year, to bring in a statement, suggesting what the churches should attempt to collect during the year, for Pastoral support, Missions, benevolence of every kind and all to be fully discussed in conference, and the plan modified and agreed upon by the whole church. This would disembarass the Deacons and aid them materially in their work. Pastoral support, or any approximation to it, would secure neighborhood preaching on a large scale. If money for this purpose could not be found, the necessities of life might be furnished in part, or work done on the farm would greatly relieve the preacher—improvement of fences, building and the like would also aid him. A little help from every church would secure large sums, from a whole people, for Missions at home and abroad. The only requisite is a little from each one of the multitude of the saints.

Mission Boards are the cheapest way yet discovered to send funds abroad. True, this method is not inexpensive; but none less expensive, none equally as cheap has yet been found. Single churches, or Associations, or Conventions cannot support a Foreign Mission. When in China, funds give out the Missionary can't find employment by which to support himself, even temporarily as at home. He must draw on Boards having commercial credit abroad. This often happens.

Finally, the work is before us, the best methods thought out by the best minds, and tested by experience, are employed; while we constantly beg for better if they can be furnished. We have attempted to get along without agency and almost uniformly failed. What should be done in this behalf? We have a Foreign Board, a Home Mission Board, intended to occupy great centers of population and new territory, and a State Board to look after destitution in our own State, where associations and churches cannot do so. These Boards are located at Richmond, Va., Marion, Ala., and Talladega, Ala., respectively.

All of which is Respectfully Submitted,

E. B. TEAGUE, Chm'n.

(Appendix B.) Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report: That we are gratified to learn that a number of our churches have flourishing Sabbath Schools, but our gratification would be increased to hear of all being engaged in this great work. By the knowledge of the Bible being disseminated not only churches, but nations are made prosperous and happy. It is owing to this that our own nation stands at the advanced stage of civilization. We think that this, of itself, should be of sufficient importance to induce all lovers of justice

to engage in the work. But when we remember the commandment to search the scriptures, and the object to be accomplished thereby, viz: the obtaining of a view of the ruined, fallen and undone condition of man, and the revelation of the plan of redemption through Jesus Christ; our obligations are increased many fold. We know that the preaching of the Gospel is the prime means by which sinners are to be reconciled to God; but we think by the means of the Sabbath school a knowledge of the Bible may be imparted to children, who otherwise would not be reached. We are admonished to train up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and how else can we do this so effectually as by teaching them the Bible. Not only should we do this for the sake of our children, but for our own good, as well, should we search the scriptures daily. In view of these facts, we would earnestly recommend that our members enter into this great work with redoubled energy.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. H. R. CARDEN, Chm'n.

(Appendix C.) Report Of Committee On Documents.

The letters from the Churches report quite a number of revivals, showing a healthy condition in this respect—several maintain Sabbath schools, as reported, and doubtless others do. It is very desirable that statistics should be given in full, so that it may be known how many keep up schools and prayermeetings. We would suggest, if sufficiently germane, that the interest and profit of District meetings might be increased by making a part of the business, the discussion of important doctrinal and practical subjects, at these meetings. If held on the 5th Sundays they might be well attended. We suggest some well devised effort to secure these ends. We note the fact that Union (Shelby) Church has licensed Brother Raney B. Hall to preach the Gospel.

No documents or queries have been submitted to our consideration.

Respectfully Submitted.

E. B. TEAGUE, Chm'n.

(Appendix D) Report of Committee on Finance.

We, your committee report :

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| Amount sent up for Minutes,..... | \$ 13 85 |
| “ “ “ Associational purposes,..... | 7 50 |
| “ “ “ Home Missions,..... | 8 50 |
| “ Collected on Sabbath for Missions,..... | 3 10 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total,..... | 32 95 |
| Montevallo Church has paid State Evangelist,.... | 25 00 |
| “ “ “ pledged “ “ | 20 00 |
| “ Sunday School paid to Indian Missions,.. | 4 00 |
| “ “ “ “ State Evangelist,. | 8 00 |
| “ “ “ “ for Chapel at Rome,. | 4 00 |
| “ Ladies Missionary Aid Society for Home and Foreign Missions,..... | 8 00 |
| Bethesda Church has paid Home Missions,..... | 1 50 |
| “ “ “ pledged Indian “ | 3 00 |
| Union “ “ State Board, | 10 00 |

Respectfully Submitted,

H. W. BOWERS, }
N. THOMAS, } Com.

Elds. J. W. Wood and I. L. Brasher preached Saturday night, Geo. T. Lee Sunday night.

TABLE OF STATISTICS.

| CHURCHES. | PASTORS. | POST OFFICE. | NAMES OF DELEGATES. | | Minutes and As- | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------------|---|---------------------|-----------------|---------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|--------------------|--|
| | | | Ordained Ministers marked 1. | Absentees marked 2. | | Total. | Deceased. | Excluded. | Dismiss'd by letter. | Restored. | Rec'd by letter. | Baptised. | Sub. of preaching. | |
| FIRST DISTRICT. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ingwood Grove | T B Dixon | Montevallo | Wm Acker, Joseph Bradford, W S Loveclady 2, Alfred Beau- | | | 124 1/2 | 20 | | | | | | | |
| Montevallo | E B Taggart | " | del 2, E G Walker 2, Samuel Holcomback. | | | 34 3/4 | 00 | | | | | | | |
| New Antioch | T B Dixon | " | J S Peery 2, J W Arnold 2, T B Dixon 1 2. | | | 40 | | | | | | | | |
| Union [Shelby] | | Day's Mill | Not Represented. | | | 7 | | | | | | | | |
| Union [Shelby] | Geo T Lee. | Holena | " | | | 44 1/2 | 50 | | | | | | | |
| Belvoir | | Tannehill | Geo T Lee 1, Wm Lucens 2, H W Bowers | | | 26 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Not Represented. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SECOND DISTRICT. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rehoboth. | C W O'Hara. | Wilsonville | W W Armstrong 1 2, C W O'Hara 1, J R Ray 2, J L Ray 2, | | | 99 3/4 | 00 | | | | | | | |
| Rehoboth Creek. | J H R Gardner. | Columbiana | L O Gould 2, J Parker, Robert Seal. | | | 20 1/2 | 50 | | | | | | | |
| Columbiana. | E B Taggart | " | R B Taggart 1, W Kidd 2. | | | 20 1/2 | 40 | | | | | | | |
| Hopewell. | W W Armstrong | " | Wesley Armstrong 2, J S May 2, R M H Armstrong. | | | 44 1/2 | 75 | | | | | | | |
| Mt Galvary | " | " | N Thomas, C L Mooney, Neel Thomas. | | | 50 2/2 | 00 | | | | | | | |
| Liberty. | T P Holcomb | " | T P Holcomb 1, J H R Garden 1 2, J W Wood 1, J W Dodson.* | | | 144 5/8 | 00 | | | | | | | |

NOTE.—The previous total is given of Churches 1 of represented. Union Church having been dismissed at our last session; the name does not appear in the above list. Union [Shelby] has received 3 by vouchers. * W C Willer, W L Gardner, Loftin Quinn, delegates from Liberty church.

